



What's New at FamilySearch

Class Handout

19 October 2021

Update to Online Consultations

For those unable to make it to the Salt Lake Family History Library in person, we offer 20 minute one on one online consultations with our specialists. The link to sign up for these has been moved from our wiki to FamilySearch.org. Here is the link to sign up:

<https://www.familysearch.org/family-history-library/virtual-genealogy-consultation-faqs>

DNA consultations have been changed from three categories (Basics, Adoption, and Brick Wall) to just two: Basics, and Solving Research Problems with DNA.

Digitized Records

In August, we officially digitized the last of our microfilm. Everything that we have permission to publish online has now been digitized. If a record in our collection that you want to see still does not have a camera next to it, then you will be unable to view it online.

Record Lookups

- Since May we have been offering free look ups
- Available in 15 languages
- Please be as specific as possible with what you are looking for

Here is the link to sign up: <https://www.familysearch.org/family-history-library/family-history-library-records-look-up-service>

Due to time restraints, contractual obligations, and copyright laws we cannot do large amounts of research for you, but we can look up records you are unable to access on our own.

Bad Examples of Look Up Requests

- Who are the parents of John Smith born 1642
- Please scan 300 pages of *The Danish Resources*

- Matthew Tolman lived in Jackson County, Missouri please find everything you can on him

Good Examples of Look Up Requests

- An indexed record shows a possible birth for John Smith born 27 October 1642 in Nottingham. The film number is 123456790 item 5. Can you send me the original record?
- Please scan pages 44-47 of *The Danish Resources*
- Can you check the Jackson county, Missouri grantor deeds to see if Matthew Tolman is in them 1830-1850?

Record Lookups

FamilySearch has actively been expanding our collection of indexed records. This year we have averaged over 1,000,000 new records per day.

- January 2021: 36 million new records
- February 2021: 34 million new records
- March 2021: 32 million new records
- April 2021: 32 million new records
- May 2021: 51 million new records
- June 2021: 31 million new records
- July 2021: 9 million new records
- August 2021: 44 million new records
- September 2021: 26 million new records
- Total: 295 million new records

At the Family History Library

For those of you who are able to make it to the Family History Library, we have worked on improving your experience there too.

Cafeteria

The main floor cafeteria has been remodeled and is now complete.

Patron Desktop

- The desktop for the patron computers has been updated.
- We have tried to make it easier to make it to the main websites that you will most likely need for your genealogical research

This link allows you to see and interact with the new patron desktop before coming:
<https://fhdpatronsitesite.churchofjesuschrist.org/Wireless/Index.htm>

Waitwhile

- We have designed a new system to get help from specialists
- Simply fill out the request form and provide your computer's ID number and a specialist will come to you regardless of where you are